

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-19 (cancelled)

20. (currently amended) A receptacle for accommodating at least one pencil comprising a plurality of wall elements defining an internal space, a first wall element having a first connecting portion and a first end portion within the internal space, a second wall element having a second connecting portion and a second end portion within the internal space, wherein the first end portion is bent over toward the second connecting portion and the second end portion is bent over toward the first connection portion, so that the first and second connecting portions define with the bent over first and second end portions a gap having a closed bottom formed by the bent over first and second end portions, a connecting device comprising a weld bead located at least in part within the gap for connecting the first connecting portion to the second connecting portion, and wherein the first and second wall elements are provided with at least one stiffening rib defining a portion of the gap and the weld bead is adjacent to the stiffening rib.

21-22 (canceled).

23. (previously presented) A receptacle as set forth in claim 20, wherein at least one wall element is formed of foil.

24. (previously presented) A receptacle as set forth in claim 23, wherein the foil is a deep drawing foil.

25. (previously presented) A receptacle as set forth in claim 20, wherein the first and the second wall elements have a wall thickness of between 200 and 400 μm .

26. (previously presented) A receptacle as set forth in claim 20, wherein one wall element is formed of a plastic material.

27. (previously presented) A receptacle as set forth in claim 26, wherein the plastic material is PET or PVC.

28. (previously presented) A receptacle as set forth in claim 20, wherein the first and second wall elements are provided with at least one bending hinge.

29. (canceled).

30. (currently amended) A receptacle as set forth in claim ~~29~~ 20, wherein at least one stiffening rib is formed of a bay configuration.

31. (previously presented) A receptacle as set forth in claim 20, further including at least one latching device for at least temporarily connecting the first and second wall elements together.